

- 2 -

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-19. Cancelled

20. (Currently amended) A method for attaching a heart valve prosthesis in a patient, the method comprising:

providing a fastener having a head and a tip;

inserting a the tip of the fastener through the prosthesis into an aortic wall or a pulmonary artery wall, the prosthesis comprising leaflets with valve commissures supports.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the prosthesis further comprises a reinforcement attached to the inner surface of one of the commissure supports, the reinforcement having apertures for insertion of the fastener.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein the fastener is inserted into the reinforcement prior to inserting the fastener into the aortic wall or the pulmonary artery wall.

23. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the heart valve prosthesis is a stentless porcine valve.

24. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein each of the commissure supports of the prosthesis comprises at least one reinforcement.

25. Canceled.

- 3 -

26. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein a plurality of fasteners are inserted to secure the prosthesis to the aortic wall or the pulmonary artery wall.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein the fastener further comprises an elongated portion, a the tip at an end of the extended portion and a the head on the end opposite the tip, the tip passing through the commissure support and through the aortic wall or the pulmonary artery wall to secure the prosthesis to the aortic wall or the pulmonary artery wall.

28-29 Canceled.

30. (New) The method of claim 20 further comprising providing a barb on the tip of the fastener to maintain the fastener in place after insertion.

31. (New) The method of claim 20 wherein the heart valve prosthesis is comprises a tissue valve.

32. (New) The method of claim 27 further comprising providing the head of the fastener with a shape such that the head is larger than a diameter of the elongated portion of the fastener.

33. (New) The method of claim 27 wherein the elongated portion of the fastener extends through the prosthesis and the aortic wall or the pulmonary artery wall to secure the prosthesis to the aortic wall or the pulmonary artery wall.

34. (New) The method of claim 20 further comprising attaching a reinforcement to the outer surface of the prosthesis, the reinforcement having apertures for insertion of the fastener.

-4-

35. (New) The method of claim 20 wherein the heart valve prosthesis comprises a polymer valve.